

REMARKS

Status of the Application:

Claims 1–10, 12–27, 29–49, 51–56 are the claims of record of the application. Claims 1–3, 5–10, 12–22, 24–27, 29–38, 40, 49, 51–56 have been rejected and claims 4, 23 and 39 have been objected to and would be allowable if written in independent form.

Amendment and Response After Final Should Be Entered

Applicants recognize that the Examiner has discretion in considering a response after final rejection, and believe that the present response is sufficiently focused to be appropriate for entry.

The amendment overcomes the non-prior art based rejections, and amends all claims to include subject matter stated in the last Office Action to be allowable.

The amendments respond directly to the Examiner's concerns, are not believed to require additional search or raise new issues, and place the application in condition of allowance.

Entry is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections -35 USC § 112 Second Paragraph (Indefiniteness)

In paragraph 1, claim 36–43,49, 51–56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 36 and claim 49. Each of these independent claims as amended are believed clear and understandable. The rejection is thus overcome for these independent claims and for their dependent claims. The amendment places these claims in condition of allowability or better condition for appeal if allowance is not forthcoming. Entry is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

In the interest of rapidly bringing the application to a condition of allowance, these rejections are not addressed in this response.

Allowable Subject Matter and Amendment of the Claims

Claim 4, 23, 39 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

All the claims have been amended to include the subject matter stated by the Office to be allowable, so that all claims are now allowable. Claims 1, 3, 3, 5–10, 12, 14–20, 22, 24–27, 29, 31–36, 38, 40–49, 52–56 remain after the amendment.

In particular:

Independent claim 1 was amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and of claim 4, and is thus allowable. Claims 2 and 4 are cancelled. Claim 3 was amended to be consistent with the amendment of claim 1. Each of dependent claims 3, 5–10 depends on an allowable claim and thus is also allowable.

Independent claim 12 was amended to include the limitations of claim 13, and further the allowable features of claim 2 and claim 4, and is thus allowable. Claim 12 differs from claim 1 in that claim 1 describes method steps at the wireless station that sends a discovery message, while claim 12 recites method steps at the station that receives the discovery message.

Claims 13 is cancelled, its limitation included in claim 12. Each of dependent claims 14–19 depends on an allowable claim and thus is also allowable.

Independent claim 20 was amended to correct a minor informality, and further to include in the method recited the limitations of claim 21 and claim 23. Claim 20 is thus allowable. Claims 21 and 23 are cancelled. Claim 22 was amended to be consistent with the amendment of claim 20. Each of dependent claims 22, 24–27 depends on an allowable claim and thus is also allowable.

Independent claim 29 was amended to correct a minor informality and include the limitations of claim 30, and further the allowable features of claim 21 and claim 23, and is thus allowable. Claim 29 differs from claim 20 in that claim 20 describes a medium encoding instructions that when executed cause method steps at the wireless station that sends a discovery message, while claim 29 recites a medium encoding instructions that when executed cause method steps at the station that receives the discovery message. Claims 30 is cancelled, its limitation included in claim 29. Each of dependent claims 31–35 depends on an allowable claim and thus is also allowable.

Independent claim 36 was amended to include the limitations of claim 37 and of claim 39, and is thus allowable. Claims 37 and 39 are cancelled. Claim 38 was amended to be consistent with the amendment of claim 36. Each of dependent claims 38, 40–43 depends on an allowable claim and thus is also allowable.

Independent apparatus claim 44 has been amended to include, in apparatus claim for, the limitations of method claims 1 and 4, such that the claim now includes subject matter deemed by the office to be allowable. Claim 45 has been amended to conform to the amendment of claim 44. Each of dependent claims 45–48 depends on an allowable claim and is thus allowable.

Independent claim 49 was amended to include the allowable features of amended claim 36 (amended to include the features of claim 39), and is thus allowable. Claim 49 differs from claim 36 in that claim 36 recites an apparatus in a wireless station that sends a discovery message, while claim 49 recites an apparatus in a wireless station that receives the discovery message.

Claims 51 is cancelled, its limitation included in claim 49. Each of dependent claims 52–56 depends on an allowable claim and thus is also allowable.

Conclusion

The remaining claims after amendment are claims 1, 3, 5–10, 12, 14–20, 22, 24–27, 29, 31–36, 38, 40–49, 52–56. These claims contain subject matter deemed by the Office to be allowable. Entry of the amendment and allowance are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments that would advance the prosecution and allowance of this application, an email message to the undersigned at dov@inventek.com, or a telephone call to the undersigned at +1-510-547-3378 is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

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